

R E M A R K S

Careful review and examination of the subject application are noted and appreciated.

SUPPORT FOR THE CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Support for the claim amendments may be found in the specification, for example, page 5, lines 8-15, page 6, lines 25-30, page 8, lines 15-26, page 9, lines 4-6 and FIGS. 1, 3-4 and 6a-6c as originally filed. As such, no new matter was added.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

The objection to claim 26 has been obviated by appropriate amendment and should be withdrawn.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112

The rejection of claims 10-27 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, has been obviated by appropriate amendment and should be withdrawn.

The rejection of claims 15-27 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, has been obviated by appropriate amendment and should be withdrawn.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102

The rejection of claims 1-21 and 27-28 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Vasishta has been obviated by appropriate amendment and should be withdrawn.

Vashira concerns a method for designing application specific integrated circuit structure (Title).

In contrast, the present invention provides an integrated circuit comprising a die, a first area circuit cells, and a second area. The die includes a surface. The first area of first circuit cells in the die is configured by user defined interconnections from above the surface. The second area comprises a plurality of sub-circuit cells forming a module. The sub-circuit cells includes (i) one or more non-reusable circuit cells coupled to a custom specific layer in a custom design having a predefined functionality and (ii) one or more reusable circuit cells coupled to the custom specific layer in the custom design when the predefined functionality of the module is not used. Claim 28 provides similar limitations.

Claims 1 and 28 have been amended to include the following claim limitations (i) sub-circuit cells that include one or more non-reusable circuit cells and one or more reusable circuit cells, (ii) non-reusable circuit cells coupled to a custom specific layer in a custom design having a predefined functionality and (iii) reusable circuit cells coupled to the custom specific layer

in the custom design when the predefined functionality of the module is not used. As such, the presently claimed invention is believed to be fully patentable over the cited references and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 2, 4-7, 9, 12 and 29-33 depend, directly or indirectly, on claims 1 and 18, which are now believed to be allowable. Since the dependent claims contain all of the limitations of the independent claims, claims 2, 4-7, 9, 12 and 29-33 are fully patentable over the cited reference and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim 15 provides an integrated circuit comprising a die, a first general purpose area, and a plurality of second standard cells. The first general purpose area of the die comprises general purpose circuit elements configurable by user defined interconnections from above the surface. The plurality of second standard circuit areas comprise standard sub-circuits having one or more reusable circuit cells more complicated than the general purpose circuit elements and configurable by user defined interconnections from above the surface. The plurality of second standard circuit areas are distributed across the first general purpose area at multiple locations. The one or more reusable circuit cells provides functionality that is reusable at multiple locations in the first general purpose area.

Claim 15 has been amended to include the following claim limitations (i) standard sub-circuits having one or more reusable circuit cells and (ii) one or more reusable circuit cells that provide functionality that is reusable at multiple locations. As such, the presently claimed invention is believed to be fully patentable over the cited reference and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 16-24, 26, 27 and 34-35 depend, directly or indirectly, on claim 15, which is now believed to be allowable. Since the dependent claims contain all of the limitations of the independent claim, claims 16-24, 26, 27 and 34-35 are fully patentable over the cited reference and the rejection should be withdrawn.

As such, the presently claimed invention is fully patentable over the cited references and the rejection should be withdrawn.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103

The rejection of claims 22-26 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Vasishta in view of Actel has been obviated by appropriate amendment and should be withdrawn. Claims 22-24 and 26 depend directly or indirectly on claim 15, which is now believed to be allowable.

As such, the presently claimed invention is fully patentable over the cited references and the rejection should be withdrawn.

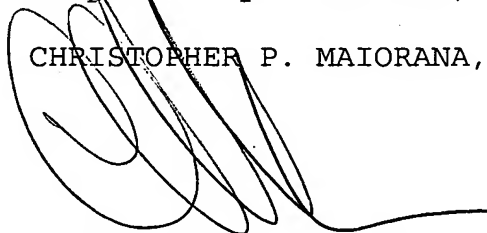
Accordingly, the present application is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action by the Examiner is respectfully solicited.

The Examiner is respectfully invited to call the Applicants' representative at 586-498-0670 should it be deemed beneficial to further advance prosecution of the application.

If any additional fees are due, please charge Deposit Account No. 12-2252.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTOPHER P. MAIORANA, P.C.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'C' followed by a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Christopher P. Maiorana
Registration No. 42,829

Dated: December 19, 2005

c/o Pete Scott
LSI Logic Corporation
1621 Barber Lane, M/S D-106 Legal
Milpitas, CA 95035
Docket No.: 03-0351 / 1496.00326